

wherein Z is independently  $-\text{OC}(\text{R}^2)_2\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{X}(\text{R})_a$ , an ester, an amidate or  $-\text{H}$ , but at least one Z is  $-\text{OC}(\text{R}^2)_2\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{X}(\text{R})_a$ ;

A is the residue of an antiviral phosphonomethoxy nucleotide analog;

X is N or O;

*Cont A*  
 $\text{R}^2$  independently is  $-\text{H}$ ,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{12}$  aryl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{12}$  alkenylaryl,  $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{12}$  alkynylaryl, or  $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{12}$  alkaryl, any one of which is unsubstituted or is substituted with 1 or 2 halo, cyano, azido, nitro or  $-\text{OR}^3$  in which  $\text{R}^3$  is  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$  alkynyl or  $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{12}$  aryl;

R independently is  $-\text{H}$ ,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{12}$  aryl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}$  alkynyl,  $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{12}$  alkenylaryl,  $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{12}$  alkynylaryl, or  $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{12}$  alkaryl, any one of which is unsubstituted or is substituted with 1 or 2 halo, cyano, azido, nitro,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_2$  or  $-\text{OR}^3$ , where  $\text{R}^4$  independently is  $-\text{H}$  or  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$  alkyl, provided that at least one R is not H; and

a is 1 when X is O, or 1 or 2 when X is N;

with the proviso that when a is 2 and X is N, (a) two N-linked R groups can be taken together to form a carbocycle or oxygen-containing heterocycle, (b) one N-linked R additionally can be  $-\text{OR}^3$  or (c) both N-linked R groups can be  $-\text{H}$ .

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request an early examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 19, 1999

Date